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Hundreds help cleanup after Baltimore riots



Members of the community clean up debris from a CVS pharmacy that was set on fire during rioting after the funeral of Freddie Gray in Baltimore, Maryland. (See article on page 12)

Photo by Andrew Burton/Getty Images

Taking Responsibility for Testicular Cancer

By Rian Dickstein, M.D.

Testicular Cancer Awareness Month, April, is almost over, but that doesn't mean men should forget about testicular cancer prevention.

Testicular cancer is a relatively rare cancer as it accounts for about one percent of all cancers; however, it is the most common cancer found in young men (ages 15-34 years old). Despite a higher rate of testicular cancer diagnoses in the past few decades, the death rate has significantly fallen due to improvements in treatment. As a result of our great success in treating testicular cancer, it is sometimes a forgotten or overlooked disease in terms of its importance.

Thus, it is of the utmost and critical importance that we spread the word about testicular cancer. In particular, the area where we can improve the most is that of detection. You cannot treat what you don't know exists. Moreover, the earlier you diagnose and treat this disease, the less likely it will spread and the easier it is to treat. Therefore, we must not ignore the importance of screening for testicular cancer.

Currently, there is no standard or routine screening test used for the early detection of testicular cancer. Physicians are reliant upon patient reporting to help make a diagnosis, as the majority of these cancers are first found by the men themselves, either by chance or by self-exam. The first symptom is usually a lump, nodule, or mass on the testicle. Alternatively, the patient might note enlarged or swollen testicles. Occasionally, pain is the presenting symptom, which



Rian J. Dickstein, M.D.
Courtesy Photo

may or may not be related to the disease; either way, these symptoms prompt additional investigation with either your primary care physician, or preferably a urologist.

Despite the fact that no standards exist, most physicians agree that a monthly self-testicular exam should be performed after the onset of puberty. The exam should be done during or after bathing when the scrotum is relaxed. The more familiar a person is with their body, the better they can assess what feels abnormal or different. Although cancer is a major concern, more often than not these symptoms are related to infection, injury or other causes. Nevertheless, it is important to see a physician to treat any other underlying or serious conditions causing these symptoms.

Unfortunately, many young men aren't seen by a physician for one reason or another until they have advanced stage disease. Some men are in denial that there is a problem. Others are

embarrassed or fearful about their problems, whether it be concern over discussing or exposing their genitals to a physician, concern over loss of sexual prowess (impotence or libido), or even concern over sterility. Some even delay seeing physicians for fear of ridicule or dismissal from physicians. Additionally, in today's environment, there is the ever-growing fear of being unable to afford care because of either not having insurance or not having the funds to pay for deductibles or co-insurances.

The onus is on us as a community to spread the word and educate young men about the dangers of testicular cancer. But we must also calm their fears and help them understand the truths. Moreover, just because this is a disease of young men, does not mean that it does not affect the women in their lives. One major issue, for example, is the potential for infertility after losing a testicle and potentially receiving treatment with either radiation and/or chemotherapy. Thus, the implications of this diagnosis involve not only the patient but also their loved ones.

The bottom line is that we need people to be more aware of testicular can-

cer. We need young men to be doing monthly self testicular exams to feel for any changes in their scrotum, including lumps and bumps, masses, pain or tenderness, or anything else unusual at all. If there are any concerns, we need families to be supportive and encouraging of men coming to see their physician for further evaluation. We don't want these young men losing their opportunity to be cured. We need them to come in before it's too late. They have too much at stake. When in doubt get it checked out, if even for only peace of mind. The ultimate responsibility for your health is yours and yours alone.

To learn more about testicular cancer, including how to do a self-exam, visit: www.menshealthnetwork.org/library/tca.pdf.

Rian J. Dickstein, M.D. is a urologist who completed a fellowship in urologic oncology at the world-renowned MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. Currently, he is a practicing urologist at Chesapeake Urology Associates and is an Assistant Clinical Professor in Urology at the University of Maryland School of Medicine.

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Guest Editorials/Commentary

A letter from a Baltimore City teacher to parents of her second grade class following the night of widespread rioting on April 27, 2015.

Today Baltimore City Schools are closed due to the current state of emergency that our city remains under. If you had the opportunity to watch the news last night or tune in this morning, I'm sure you are completely horrified to see what has taken place in the streets of Baltimore.

For several years, I worked and lived in the area that I watched burn on television last night. I am sure that I taught more than one of those students out there wrapped up in all of that foolishness and it truly hurts my heart to see it has come to this. However, as you watch this footage I challenge you to take a few things into consideration as you analyze what is happening.

Eleven years ago, I sat in a sharing circle made up of six and seven year olds from southwest Baltimore and as we began a unit on community helpers they began to tell me their stories of what they knew of police officers. They told me about their homes being raided, parents and family members being taken away in handcuffs, seeing first hand the use of force by police and in a few cases on themselves, and actually having guns placed in their faces. These children did not have the capacity to process what they had seen. But that emotion and those feelings had to go somewhere right? When you bury something you are giving it the opportunity it needs to grow. And so we see it grow and it manifest itself as senseless anger.

Over my eight years of working in that area of Baltimore, I saw some extremely angry children who all had a parent or in some cases both incarcerated. These children all had experienced the death of a family member, if not more than one, due to street violence. Many felt police officers would have offered more protection had their addresses been different.

This city has been sitting on this hotbed of emotion among many of its residents for decades and there have been no firm supports put in place for these families or specifically for these children. These children are dealing with parent and family incarceration, addiction, physical and emotional abuse, lead poisoning, fetal alcohol syndrome and emotional disorders just to name a few things.

So, what have our efforts been to support these children the mayor so eloquently called "thugs?" Well, we have closed recreation centers and many of the religious institutions are afraid to reach out and offer programs for them. Our public schools are so overwhelmed by the mass quantity of students in need of support services that they often offer no support due to lack of staffing and finances needed to support these children. But who does have their arms open and ready to embrace these children? Gangs. And so the cycle continues.

I, by no means, am writing this in order to dismiss the behavior we saw last night or to justify it. My only hope is that you understand that there is a bigger, deeper and stronger issue at hand. As we wait as a community for the release of the report and hopefully a trial, please be aware that things may heat up again.

It is going to be a long couple of days, weeks and months ahead of us as a city and community— please hold your family close and stay safe.

When sending letters to the editor, your correct name, address and telephone number must be included with your submission.

Your letter will not be published without the required information.

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Community Affairs

Baltimore: The Aftermath

By Phinisse Demps

The night of Monday, April 27, 2015 will be one that the residents of Baltimore City will never forget. The world watched in horror as the city erupted in violent protest, looting, arson and destruction of property.

The next day as we traveled through the city, we witnessed members of the community coming together to clean up after the activities the night before.

Sorority sisters from Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. were busy helping the residents of the Penn-North Senior Citizen Home with food and water. They also were helping the residents fill their prescriptions since the CVS Pharmacy right next door was looted and was burned out.

Students from Coppin State University and Morgan State University were busy helping with the clean up in the area around the burned out CVS Pharmacy.

"Cleaning up North Avenue was very important to me," said women's basket-



ball junior forward Jordan Swails, who led Coppin State in scoring this past season and was named to the All-MEAC Tournament

team. "I'm living on campus, which means that North Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue is in my backyard. It was very terrifying so I felt like I had to make a difference."

Helping to control the crowd and the flow of traffic around the area of North and Pennsylvania Avenue was the 300 Men organization along with other community organizations.

Later in the day, Reverend Al Sharpton made a brief statement after meeting with the mayor and other city officials at City Hall. He said he was in Baltimore to lend support for the Mayor and the City of Baltimore and to ensure that justice and peace would get served.

Succeeding While Black:

Five ways to avoid altercations with police

By Matthew R. Drayton

During the past few months there has been numerous incidents— some tragic— where police officers were accused of brutality and abuse of power against African Americans, including Ferguson, South Carolina and New York being the most well-known. Some of the incidents were caught on video.

There are nearly 780,000 sworn officers in the United States protecting and serving 319 million Americans. Police officers have a very difficult and stressful job, but that is no excuse to use excessive force. However, we must take into account what these officers go through and understand that all police officers aren't bad.

I have been in situations where I could have easily gotten into confrontations with police officers. Years ago, I regularly worked with local and state police officers in major cities throughout the U.S. I can tell you first hand that there are some police officers that are preju-

diced or egotistical, and some that have their own agendas. I remember arriving in Texas to meet and work with local police there. When I reached out to shake one of the officer's hands, he refused! Later during that same trip, I was almost arrested because the same police officer who wouldn't shake my hand, failed to tell a group of his fellow officers who I was as I approached them.

On another trip to California, a police officer stood two feet in front of me and stared me down while I waited to meet with the Deputy Police Chief. I had never met this officer before, nor did I do anything to him to warrant the stare he was giving me. In both Texas and California, I was the only African American in the group; my co-workers were not subjected to the same treatment. In both cases, I had no choice but to work through whatever issues those police officers had with me. I did not respond to their behavior towards me, and worked more closely with the officers who reached out to me than the ones who didn't. In the end, we successfully finished our work in both cities, and I made some new friends in law enforcement.

My experiences with the police were not all bad; in fact there were more positive experiences with them than negative ones. I realize some of my circumstances and encounters with the police were of a different nature than being pulled over for a routine traffic stop, but the two situations I mentioned above were intense and could have easily become confrontational. I have been stopped and pulled over by the police numerous times over the years,

and I can honestly say, I have never been mistreated by a police officer. The following tips have worked for me when I have had encounters with police officers in the past. Hopefully they can help you too.

Obey the law: If you are breaking the law in any way; it's only a matter of time before you have to deal with the police. Turn on your flashers, drive slowly and pull over to a well-lit busy area if you are pulled over. Cooperate if you are being questioned or arrested to avoid any physical confrontation.

Be polite and show respect: Greeting and treating a police officer with respect immediately de-escalates the situation. Regardless of how you feel about being pulled over or questioned, the police are authorized to do so. Mouthing off and becoming aggressive towards the police will make the situation worse.

Obey police officer orders: When a policeman asks you to do something reasonable, do it. Remember, these men and women are trying to do a job, and sometimes need to gather facts to do their job. Disobeying the police officer's orders will again only make the situation worse.

Make lifestyle changes: Most of the things that happen to us are a result of our decisions. Alcohol, outdated license plates, and erratic driving are a few contributors to police stops. If you are hanging out late at night with known offenders, or in places where there is a high probability of a crime, there will likely be a heavy police presence there.

Educate your children: Teach your children at an early age about police brutality, and to be respectful when dealing with the police, and all adults for that mat-

ter. Explain current events to them in an unbiased way, and make them aware of the dangers they face if they break the law, and what can happen to them at the hands of some police officers.

It is not my intent to downplay police brutality incidents or to be insensitive to anyone who has suffered or died at the hands of the police. My purpose is to help African Americans understand that engaging an officer properly can de-escalate the situation, and possibly avoid a deadly altercation. I am a middle-aged, African American male who regrettably has had too many encounters with the police during my lifetime. I have never been arrested or beaten by a police officer, nor have I ever been disrespectful or mouthed off to one.

I do realize that if a police officer wants to use violence against you, he is going to do it, but I truly believe it's harder to beat up a person who is polite and compliant. Try these tips the next time you have an encounter with the police. It cannot hurt and it may just save you. Remember, we cannot control a police officer's behavior, but we can control our own.

Retired Army Sergeant Major Matthew R. Drayton is a corporate speaker, life coach, consultant, leadership expert and author of "Succeeding While Black." He has also been mentoring youth for over a decade and is currently the Executive Director of Great Oak Youth Development Center, a North Carolina-based non-profit organization that mentors at risk youth. For more information, visit: www.MattDrayton.com.

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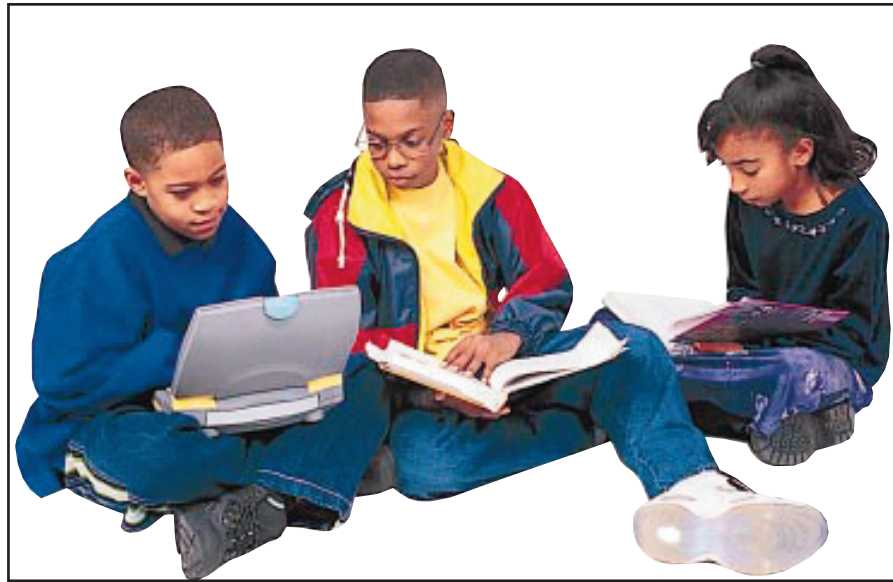
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Port Discovery and NASA Goddard offer engineering programs for elementary school students

Baltimore— Port Discovery Children's Museum in Baltimore, Maryland and NASA Goddard Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland have partnered to offer two engineering based programs to elementary aged children in the Baltimore area. The two programs, "I'm an Engineer!" and "NASA's Sunday Experiment," will allow children to engage in the engineering process and promote a tendency to choose Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) classes in the future.

"The goal of our collaboration is to promote student interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) during a student's elementary school years," said Dean Kern, Deputy Director for the Office of Education at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Maryland. "Students often form their interests in STEM identities and careers while engaged in hands-on, experiential types of learning opportunities— much earlier than many people probably believe to be the case."

The "I'm an Engineer!" program, based on NASA's Beginning Engineering Science and Technology, will be offered as an after-school program at four Baltimore County sites and will introduce elementary-aged students to



The two programs, "I'm an Engineer!" and "NASA's Sunday Experiment," allows children to engage in the engineering process and promote a tendency to choose Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) classes in the future.
Courtesy Photo/Metro Graphics.com

the principles of engineering and problem solving. Using the engineering design process, students will work on a variety of hands-on, NASA themed projects including designing and launching satellites and designing and building Martian rovers. The program is designed to allow children to fully immerse themselves in the engineering process and

directly interact with their projects, independently from adults. In addition to learning about engineering at NASA, students will also develop critical thinking and communication skills from working with partners and other teams.

Babcock Presbyterian Church, Cockeysville PAL Center, Hillendale PAL Center and the Dundalk PAL Center each

received four sessions of the "I'm an Engineer!" program during April and May.

The second program, NASA Sunday Experiment, will be held at Port Discovery and is open to all museum visitors. During each session, visitors will focus on a specific NASA mission and engage in a series of hands-on, inquiry based activity stations, watch videos and speak with NASA experts. The dates and topics of the sessions are:

- August 2: Optical Engineering
- August 23: Global Precipitation Measurement

"We are so excited to partner with NASA Goddard to bring these programs to the museum and local schools," said Nora Thompson, Director of Education at Port Discovery Children's Museum. They are a fun and interesting way to introduce STEM education at an early age."

The mission at Port Discovery Children's Museum is to connect purposeful play and learning— both within our walls and beyond. The Museum offers three floors of educational, interactive exhibits and programs that promote imagination, creativity, and critical thinking skills for children from birth to age 10. To learn more about Port Discovery Children's Museum, visit portdiscovery.org.

Christian Liberty Church Celebrates First Anniversary

Sunday, May 17, 2015

Douglass High School

2301 Gwyns Falls Parkway in Baltimore

Morning Worship Service at 10 a.m. with Minister Tony Miller

Anniversary BBQ at 12:30 p.m.

Outdoor Tent Service at 3 p.m. with Pastor Andre Murphy

For more information, visit: www.christianlibertychurch.org

46th Cylburn Arboretum Market Day

Saturday, May 10, 2015 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Four ways parents can promote positive behavior in school

News and Experts— Word arrives from school that the parent's child is in trouble. Maybe it was a minor offense and the student simply faced a trip to the office. But maybe a suspension or expulsion is in the near future, leaving the parents wondering whether they could have done something before the situation became so dire.

Before parents beat themselves up too much, though, they should remember that student discipline isn't always a clear-cut thing, says Renae Azziz, founder and director of Virtuoso Education Consulting, which provides professional development training to teachers and school district leaders.

"The reasons students are sent to the office are not always well defined," says Azziz, a school psychologist. "So-called problem behaviors are often too subjective, which leads to different teachers having different perceptions and definitions of what a problem behavior is."

The situation can be especially frustrating for the parents of these students. Numerous studies have shown that African-American students are more likely than their white peers to be severely punished for their transgressions.

Cultural misunderstandings between teachers and students often are at the core of those disproportionate punishments, Azziz says. When there is a mismatch between what the teacher sees as acceptable behavior and the student's view, problems can surface.

Teachers can learn to account for those cultural differences through explicit and ongoing training focused on culture. But there are also steps all parents can take that will go a long way in helping their children understand the school's expectations, Azziz says and offers these tips:

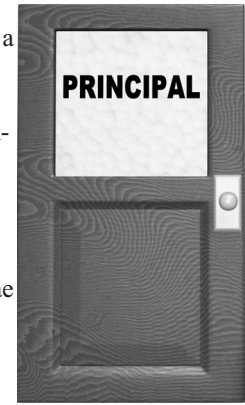
- Educate yourself.** Parents should read the school's discipline handbook and become familiar with the expectations for behavior in their child's school. That way parents will have a clearer understanding of the rules and can discuss them with the child. Handbooks lay out all kinds of information, such as what constitutes bullying or how unexcused absences affect participation in extracurricular activities. "Knowing and talking about the rules can help you head off problems," Azziz says.

- Positive reinforcement at home.** Parents can set up positive ways to acknowledge their student for doing the right thing at home that connect to the behavior expectations at school. Children usually respond better to positive reinforcement than negative reinforcement, so praise at home for correct behavior can translate into good behavior in the classroom.

- Learn the rules face to face.** Early in the school year, parents should meet with their child's teacher and principal to define and clarify behavior expectations and discuss how you will communicate with each other. Often, email is a good way to communicate with teachers because they can read and respond to the correspondence after class is over for the day. But find out what the teacher prefers. Good communication can help the parent and the teacher work together to make sure behavior expectations are understood and followed.

- Championing the child.** A parent should be the child's advocate. "After all, if you aren't in your child's corner, who is?" she asks. But that doesn't mean taking the attitude: My child is always right. "You will need to be fair and balanced," Azziz says.

Renae Azziz is the founder and director of Virtuoso Education Consulting. She and her team of consultants support educators nationally in the areas of Response-to-Intervention, Data-Based Decision Making, Assessment, Positive Behavior Support and Culturally Responsive Practices. For more information, visit: www.virtuosoeed.com.



Former Ravens speak out about riots in Baltimore

By Turron Davenport

The Baltimore Ravens is a team that is truly entrenched in the community. The team responsible for community relations for the Ravens has done a great job in keeping the Ravens players invested in the community.

Two of the truly influential players in Ravens' history have spoken out against the riots in Baltimore City.

Few players have done as much for Baltimore and the surrounding area than Torrey Smith. In fact, Smith is still involved with the community only months after he signed with the San Francisco 49ers. Smith was in town to support the Brigance Brigade 5.7K run to raise funds for ALS research and he took to Instagram to share the following message with the violent protesters.

"To all of my brothers and sisters protesting in Baltimore: I applaud you for your effort in raising awareness on the issue of police brutality but VIOLENCE IS NOT THE ANSWER. DESTROYING YOUR OWN CITY IS NOT THE ANSWER.

"Violent protests have never produced the results that we have wanted. Even the great Martin Luther King, Jr. adjusted his strategy. Keep the power in numbers and organized fashion. I don't know all of the facts or have the answers but I do know that a family is mourning the death of their child/brother/cousin that could have been prevented. I pray for the family of Freddie Gray during this difficult time and that they get all of the answers they need.

"To the people who view the rioters as



Former Baltimore Ravens player Ray Lewis considered by many as the single greatest leader in the history of sports spoke out against the riots in Baltimore. Lewis posted a video on Facebook exploring Baltimore youth to get off the streets as violence never solves the problem.

Courtesy Photo/www.baltimoreravens.com

'animals' you don't understand why people are so angry. It has been years and years of the same type of incidents.

"Right or Wrong....People are fed up and acting out in a way they seem fit. It is all driven by emotion and probably a few people who just wanted to start trouble. Don't let that take away from the thousands of people who went to protest in a peaceful way."

Smith also posted a plea for leaders in the community to spark change, "You need leaders that really want to change things and not just show up for the cameras and leave when they roll out."

Smith also promised to help the city which in his words; "went from a peaceful protest to damn near a war which

isn't going to do anything but delay progress."

Ray Lewis is considered by many as the single greatest leader in the history of all sports. There aren't many men who can tap into the inner spirit of people the way that he can. Lewis has vowed to always be involved in the Baltimore community. He posted a video on Facebook that should hit home for all people involved. Here is his message:

"No way, No way this can happen in our city. No. Young kids, you have to understand something...get off the streets. Violence is not the answer. It has never been the answer. Freddie Gray, we don't do nothing for him doing this. We know there's a deeper issue. We know

what the jungle looks like but this isn't it. There's enough of us in the streets trying to change what's going on.

Baltimore, get off the streets. Kids, stay home, GO HOME. You don't have the right to do what you are doing to this city. Too many hard working people built this city. We put this city together, put it on our back. We are with you. We know that there are problems, we know that there was wrong done. We know we aren't getting justice, we know we are not getting the answers but riding in our streets in wrong, DEAD WRONG.

We have to go back to the beginning; it takes a village to raise one child. We have to redefine what this looks like. We have to redefine what building Baltimore looks like. There's too many people putting real sweat, real tears to make our city a better place. I can't come back home and this is it, kids can't walk the street? This is our future. Our future is in Baltimore. What we are trying to build is in Baltimore.

There's too many babies paying attention to this craziness. The sad part is that we have young kids telling us how they're going to dictate our city. THAT WON'T HAPPEN. We must change this right now. Stop the violence. GO HOME. I am telling you, go home. Whatever I have to do, it won't happen on our clock."

Lewis truly meant what he said about doing what he had to do. He has chosen not to go to Chicago to cover the NFL Draft for ESPN, his current employer. Instead, Lewis is going to hit the streets of Baltimore to help the city push through these troubled times.

This year thousands of men will die from stubbornness.

Learn the preventive medical tests you need. ahrq.gov

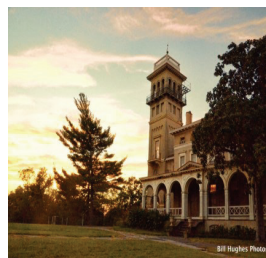
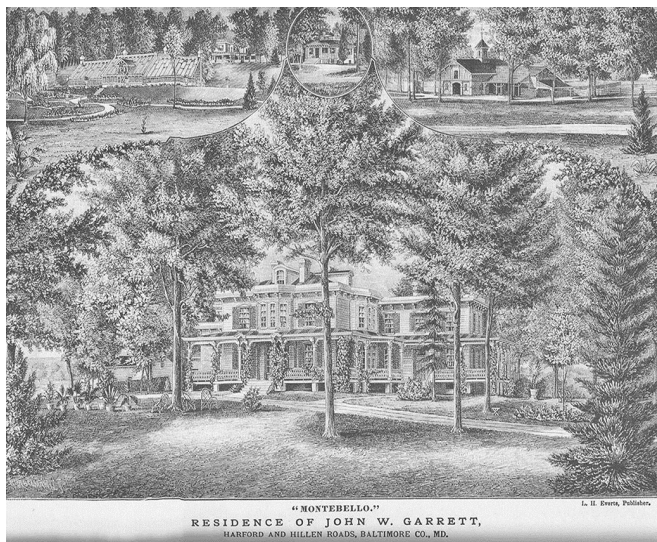


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CLIFTON PARK CONNECTIONS—
 A Legacy of Country Estates

Saturday, May 16 from 10:00 AM to Noon
 Meet at the Clifton Mansion in Clifton Park, Baltimore at 9:45 AM
Park on the drives circling the mansion with the tower— turn off Saint Lo Drive



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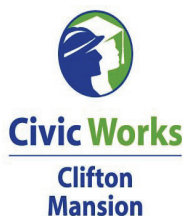
L. H. Evens, Publisher.

Guided walk through Clifton Park led by **Eric Holcomb**, City Planner, Baltimore City Commission on Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) and author of *The City as Suburb: A History of Northeast Baltimore since 1600* and **Jim Bartlett**, Mayfield resident and President, Friends of Mothers' Garden.

Explore the rich history of the country estates that connect with Clifton Park, the summer estate of Johns Hopkins— originally Henry Thompson's. You will view the original sites of estates of Coldstream, Homestead and Montebello from the tower of Clifton Mansion. We will explore how this area grew into a nexus of grand country estates and then developed into thriving neighborhoods that center on one of Baltimore's most beautiful parks. Clifton Park provides a historic landscape to explore more than two hundred years of urban development. Learn about the Olmsted Brothers, *Report Upon the Development of Public Grounds for Greater Baltimore*, 1904, and the boulevard connections to The Alameda, 33rd Street, Lake Montebello and Herring Run Park. Starting from the Mothers' Garden, discover the Olmsted Brothers' boulevard plan for Norman Avenue in the Mayfield neighborhood.

Register at www.olmstedmaryland.org

Space is limited to 25 participants. \$15 advance payment. \$20 on day of tour.



**Sign up to make a
 difference in a
 Fresh Air child's life**



*Open your heart and home to
 a child from New York City
 this summer*

Photo by Lisa Hill

Baltimore— Fresh Air volunteers need your help to create another fun-filled summer for children from New York City! Each summer, nearly 4,000 children visit volunteer host families in rural, suburban, and small town communities across 13 states from Virginia to Maine and Canada.

Host families simply want to share their homes with city children and the pure joys of summertime outside of the city. Families find hosting so rewarding that more than 65 percent of all Fresh Air children are invited to visit the same host families year after year.

First-time Fresh Air visitors are six to 12 years old, and Fresh Air hosts range from young families to grandparents. All it takes is the willingness to welcome a New York City child to your community.

"Our Fresh Air child loves hanging out on the front lawn and jumping in the pool. Honestly, she enjoys the simple things the most," says a Fresh Air host.

The Fresh Air Fund, an independent, not-for-profit agency, has provided free summer experiences to more than 1.8 million New York City children from low-income communities since 1877.

For more information about hosting a Fresh Air child this summer, contact Lisa Oakley at 202-641-8301 or visit The Fresh Air Fund online at www.freshair.org.

United Way Forum reveals the power of women

By Stacy M. Brown

The United Way has realized progress in issues facing the community and one goal of the nonprofit is to continue to have a positive effect locally and in cities throughout the country, according to the organization's national president.

"We've been incredibly encouraged by the power of women [that] come together and tackle tough issues. Women aren't afraid to get involved," said Stacey Stewart, United Way's United States president, who addressed the recent United Way of Central Maryland's Women's Leadership Council Forum in Baltimore. "They have an incredible amount of energy and compassion to care for their families and community."

Stewart leads the strategy for the 1,200 United Ways across the country.

The forum convened to celebrate dynamic business and community leaders who are committed to igniting the power of women to advance the common good, officials said.

"This was the council's inaugural Women's Forum, celebrating the Council's 15th anniversary and United Way of Central Maryland's 90th anniversary," Stewart said. "The forum focused on the immense impact its members have had, changing the odds for families and communities right here."

The forum also brought together more than 400 women business and community leaders from many sectors throughout central Maryland who are united in our desire to lead and change things for the better.

"The energy in the room was contagious. A lot can happen when women come together. It's electric and these women are part of the largest women's movement in the world," Stewart said.

Many of the stories shared at the forum focused on women working together for the community. Speakers included Patty Brown, the senior vice president of Johns Hopkins Medicine and president of Johns Hopkins HealthCare LLC, who shared how a friend invited her to an event where she joined the council. Brown now chairs the United Way of Central Maryland's board.



Stacey Stewart
United States President
United Way Worldwide
Courtesy Photo/The United Way

Many of the panelists like Dr. Pamela Brown, the executive director of the Anne Arundel County Partnership for Children, Youth and Families, told the forum about how they call each other to

get help for families in need. Brown called Sandy Monck at the United Way, and together they successfully helped a woman and her family of nine who were living in a one-room motel.

"As Mika Brzezinski shared at the forum, 'you can help more people if you increase your value.' When women come together and feel empowered and encourage each other, they can change the world," Stewart said.

In Maryland, there are several issues that need attention to help family stability, she said.

For example, in Baltimore City, 86 percent of students receive free or reduced-price lunch and Maryland ranks as the 4th most expensive state in the country for housing costs, and families are the fastest-growing homeless group.

Stewart says the child food insecurity rate in Harford County stands at 18.7 percent and, in central Maryland, 345,000 families are food insecure and are lacking healthy food which prevents children from learning because they tend to get sick more often.

"The good news is, we are making a difference. United Way's Access to Healthy Food Initiative has already provided 8.2 million pounds of food to low-income families in central Maryland. That's millions of meals," Stewart said.

Since its inception, and as a result of its family stability programs, 213 families still have a place to call home and 479 children have remained in their school of origin.

"We worked with 18 teen parents so far at the new United Way Family Center at Ben Franklin High School to provide the support they need to stay in school, graduate, and look to the future," she said.

Stewart says the second of its two scheduled forums for 2015 will be held on Saturday, June 6, 2015.

"My goal as president is to work with the more than 1,200 United Ways to create opportunities for a brighter future for all of us by focusing on the building blocks of a successful, self-sufficient life, [including] education, financial stability and health," Stewart said. "By working together and addressing the root causes of issues in each local community, we can ensure kids come to school ready and help more young people graduate from high school and get on the right path to a successful future."

Man on the Street When Do Black Lives Matter?

By Stacy M. Brown

The numbers are staggering, as of Monday, April 27, 2015—the day family members held a funeral for Freddie Gray—statistics revealed that there were 68 homicides in Baltimore, including three individuals under the age of 18. Fifty-nine of those murders were of African-Americans, reportedly committed by other blacks.

Three-year-old McKenzie Elliott, an African-American, was shot to death standing on her porch in Waverly in August 2014, and despite many eyewitnesses, no one has come forward.

“There has been no hash tag that says ‘Black lives matter,’ no public outrage, no protests or demonstrations about her death,” said Earl Al-Amin, the Imam of the Muslim Community Cultural Center in Baltimore, himself a longtime leader in the city’s African-American community.

“It’s apparent that we don’t want to confront reality. If all black lives matter then why do we hold candlelight vigils when we kill one another but when someone outside of the race kills us, then we protest with fervor and intensity that’s unmatched,” Al-Amin said. Al-Amin, who has served the community working with young individuals for nearly 40 years, said those leading protests over Gray’s death have reached out to him to participate, but he’s not interested. “We are evading the issues and we’ve allowed elements to come in so that we can’t fulfill our potential.”

“We constantly look outside of ourselves instead of inside. Marcus Garvey once said that ‘no one will do as much for you as you will do for yourselves.’ I have stayed out of this because I’m very wary of what has taken place,” he said. “We have mishandled this ‘No justice, no peace’ thing and we won’t look at ourselves and except internal responsibility.”

Gray died days after being arrested by Baltimore police on April 12, 2015. Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake has called for transparency, wanting to know exactly what happened. However, as protestors continue to cry out that,



Rev. Al Sharpton addressed the media in front of City Hall after meeting with Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake.

Photo: Phinisse Demps

“Black Lives Matter,” Al-Amin and others said there’s too much black on black crime.

“All black lives matter,” said Attorney Reginald Greene, whose group “Black Lawyers for Justice” has been instrumental in helping to organize some of the local demonstrations. “Black on black killing by civilians is a major issue and it is a serious problem that must be addressed.

Marvin Wright, who said he simply came to Baltimore from New Jersey to pray for Gray’s family and not to participate in demonstrations, was stunned by the violence. “Not just the burning of buildings,” Wright said. “But, look at how nasty these people who are supposed to be seeking justice are to each other. They respect no one and they claim they want the police to respect them.”

Sylvia Jordan, a Washington, D.C. nurse who came to Baltimore to check on the welfare of her sister who lives in the area, said she is disgusted by the devastation of the community. She said she doesn’t understand why African-Americans only seem to get upset when others outside of the race commit crimes

against them.

“We should be equally upset, not rioting, but equally annoyed when we kill each other,” Jordan said. “I can never participate in any of these protests unless and until black lives matter to black people.”

While police must be held accountable for their actions, Al-Amin says protest leaders should also be held responsible for the escalating riots and damage to the city. He singled out Reverend Jamal Bryant of the Empowerment Temple, an organizer for demonstrations who gave the eulogy at Gray’s funeral.

“Bryant has some issues. He’s knowledgeable but not wise because wisdom is knowledge with discretion and Bryant has

stoked the flames for this,” Al-Amin said.

Bryant declined comment, choosing only to answer questions from CNN reporters.

“He won’t answer questions about black on black crime and why there is no outrage over that,” Al-Amin said.

Officials from the NAACP, Al Sharpton’s National Action Network and Jesse Jackson’s Rainbow Push Coalition also declined to respond to those same questions.

“The people are being manipulated by provocateurs,” Al-Amin said. “You see young African-American males acting out not because of a sense of outrage or a sense of justice. You see them acting out because they are getting their 15 seconds of fame. These misguided young men are playing to an agenda and their basic needs were not [being] met in their formative years.”

“It’s disconcerting for me to watch the so-called faith leaders and political leaders in this because they are not saying anything and they refuse to focus on black on black crime.”



Earl Al-Amin, the Imam of the Muslim Community Cultural Center in Baltimore. Courtesy Photo

Hundreds help cleanup after Baltimore riots

By Stacy M. Brown

Community centers and some business owners offered free meals, water and even a safe haven.

Students from Morgan State University, local teachers, individuals who were out of school because of the closings and members of several fraternities methodically began cleaning the city after a violent night of rioting and looting.

In all, about 3,000 individuals—many joining the efforts on an impromptu basis—worked from dusk until dawn to help Baltimore reclaim its Charm City moniker and to let the world know what Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake meant when she said, “We are One Baltimore.”

“We thought it was most important to let the community know that people are out cleaning,” said Kaeshawn Stewart, a Baltimore resident and a member of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority. “This is encouraging to the community and it’s giving the community hope because we’ve had many come by and say thank you.”

Anita Wade a school teacher and a member of the Zeta Phi Beta sorority worked arm-in-arm with Stewart as they cleaned a lot across from a playground and immediately around the corner from the flash point of activity at North and Pennsylvania Avenues.

Despite a low-hovering police helicopter and sounds of bullhorns and demonstrators clashing with police, Wade said cleanup efforts were important, particularly to set a positive example for young people.

“There are so many issues that are not being addressed, but our children need to see this [cleaning effort],” she said. “It makes things a little better.”

With a burned and destroyed CVS store, a multi-million dollar senior center destroyed and pure chaos serving as a most unfortunate backdrop, many residents displayed the spirit of true activism.

Melanie Diggs, the branch manager for the Pennsylvania Avenue branch of the Enoch Pratt Free Library helped to keep as many as 30 individuals safe as demonstrations turned to riots and the local CVS store was looted and burned.

With a broom and a dustpan in his hand as he helped clean on Tuesday, April 28, Robert Stokes shook his head when asked about the effects of the riots: “You look around and see unemployment. Filling out job ap-



Morgan State University and Coppin State University students volunteer to help clean up after day of destruction in Baltimore. Courtesy Photo

plications and being turned down because of where you live and your demographic. It’s so much bigger than the police department,” he said. “This is a powder keg that’s waiting to explode.” But, Stokes and others attempted in earnest to diffuse that time bomb, simply by joining the efforts to show city pride, strength and solidarity by cleaning and otherwise lending a helping hand.

Baltimore City Public Schools were closed Tuesday due the previous night’s violence and many students had nowhere to go. A sign outside of Red Emma’s Book Store and Coffeehouse told students, “This is a safe place for Baltimore’s youth.”

Storeowners provided free lunch to all city children as efforts to restore peace and a sense of normalcy began.

CVS manager Haywood McMorris still lamented the fate of his store and told reporters that the destruction hurts those who work there and the residents of the area. “It didn’t make sense, we work here and this is where

we stand, and this is where people actually make a living,” McMorris said.

Cheryl Wright, another resident who lives nearby, listened as McMorris spoke. She said she understood his pain, but the efforts of her and others to clean up the city shows that there is hope.

“Look around you,” Wright said. “Look not at those yelling at cops, but look at how many are out here with brooms, dustpans, garbage bags. This is what gives all of us a reason to stay here and a reason to believe in the best of Baltimore.”

Morgan State University students also joined cleanup efforts at the intersection of Pennsylvania and North avenues, a mission organized by the university’s Student Government Association.

“The students decided to do this on their own,” said university spokesman Larry Jones. “They organized and initiated this on campus and on social media using the hash tag ‘MSU cleanup.’ We didn’t ask them to do this;

they just wanted to help in the community.”

As some of the nearby demonstrators broke into song, performing Bill Withers’ iconic

“Lean on Me,” the cleanup efforts proved as strong a message as the legendary lyrics, which include the words “Just call on me brother, when you need a hand we all need somebody to lean on... I just might have a problem that you’ll understand; we all need somebody to lean on.”

Edna Cleveland, who lives blocks from the flash point, said all of it inspired her.

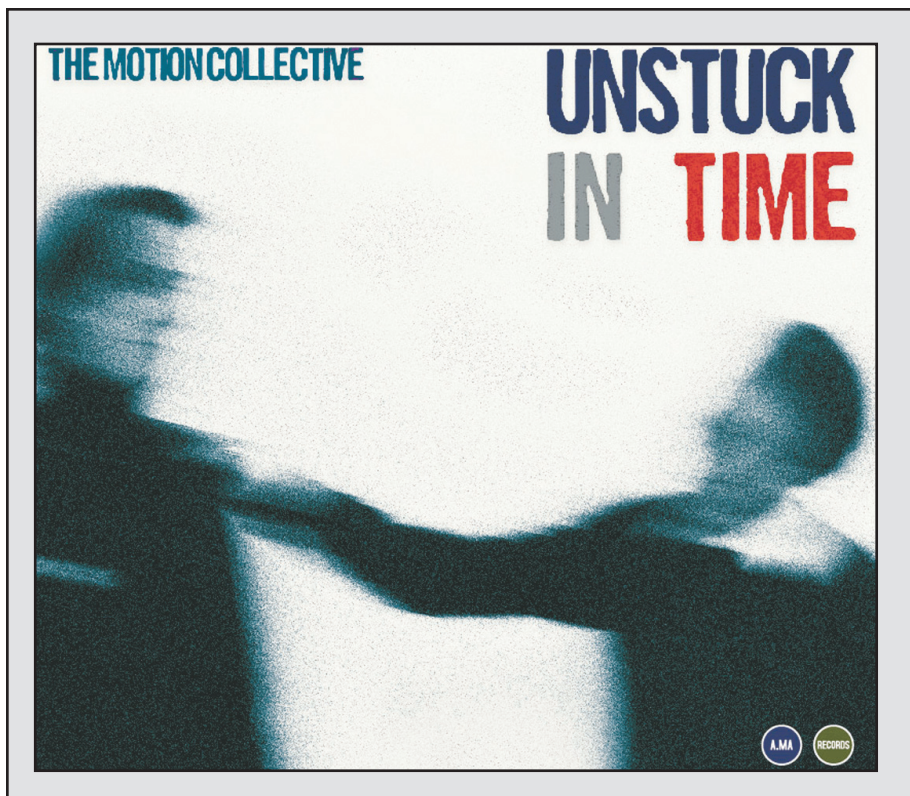
“It’s emotional. I wish that more people would get involved in cleaning up our city and then, when you hear the protestors singing ‘Lean on Me’ you hope that people realize that this is bigger than them. It’s bigger than riots and protests,” Cleveland said. “It’s about what is right and wrong and how to go about being a real community who knows how to genuinely stick together.”



Morgan students on their way to assist with the clean up of community in aftermath of riots. Photo Credit: Larry Jones, Morgan State University



AKA's with Senior Residents of Penn-North: Nicole Cameron Becketts, Janeen Jackson Monica White, Resident-Ms. Adams, Resident-Ms. Williams. Photo: Phinesse Demps



Indie Soul Music: The Motion Collective

By Phinisse Demps

The Motion Collective, the amazing jazz collective from Bari, Italy released their first full-length album for A.M.A Records with executive producer Antonio via TIMKAT Entertainment in America.

Now this CD has been in my Dropbox for about a month and when I finally listened to the music, I was blown away by the mix of sound, rhythm and technique. It was like making a summer salad, adding the right ingredients and topping it off with a light dressing. This 10-track digital download/CD, is “perfecto!”

The single, “Unstuck In Time” is just delicious and right on time for a Spring/Summer release. For those House and Club Deejays, the first two tracks, “Enchanting Drum” and “Enfarte Musical” should be on your playlists and in your mixes.

Indie Soul favorites are: “Into You,” “Hoverin,” and “Angels.”

I loved the sound and it definitely has that chillin’— let’s go for a ride or have a glass of wine— type of vibe. You can pick up a copy at: <https://timkatent.bandcamp.com/album/unstuck-in-time>.

“Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and charm and gaiety to life and to everything.” —Plato



Indie Soul Reviews: *Street Magic*

By Phinisse Demps

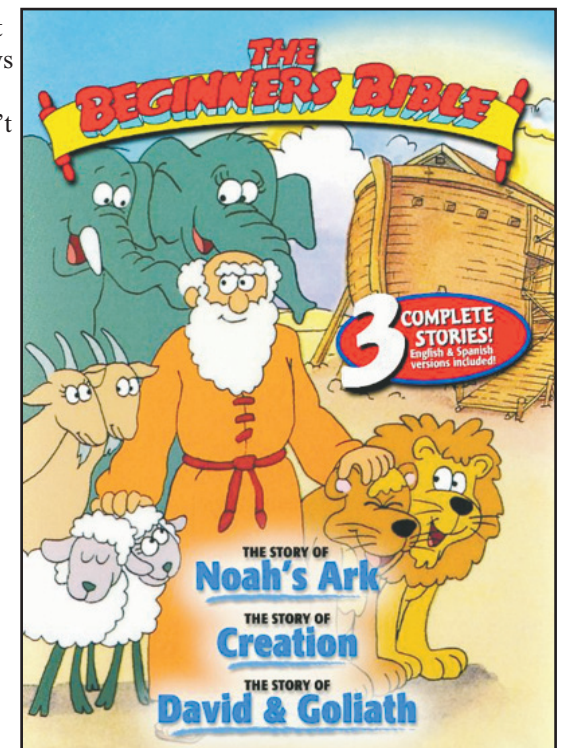
Indie Soul enjoys spotlighting independent authors. Recently, author Mary B. Banks stopped by our office to drop off her book, “Magic Street.” Banks credits her mother and father who always told her that the library was a magical place. We are so glad they did because her unique book is a collection of short stories about characters in and around Baltimore! Banks did a great job of giving her characters life. The stories are very vivid and you can actually picture the scenes, the characters, and the story.

The Beginners Bible:

There is a piece of scripture in Proverbs 22:6 that states: “Train up a boy in the way he should go; Even when he grows old he will not depart from it.” People have strayed away from one the most important aspects of life and that is spirituality. If your child knows all the details of a video or the lyrics to the latest song, shouldn’t they know what the Bible teaches? That is the premise of The Beginners Bible. To teach our children from a young age values and Bible fundamentals like the creation story. Make a note to purchase the DVD when it is released on June 9, 2015.

To see the trailer of The Beginners Bible, visit The Baltimore Times Facebook page: [Facebook.com/TheBaltimoreTimes](https://www.facebook.com/TheBaltimoreTimes).

Indie Soul welcomes your questions and comments. To contact Phinisse Demps, call 410-366-3900 ext. 3016 or 410-501-0193 or email: pdemps@btimes.com.





Indie Soul Spotlight: Poet Deep

By Phinisse Demps

"I want to make a difference in Baltimore and be an example to not only my kids but the kids in the community."—Poet Deep.

Whoever said that once you make mistakes in your life that you can't be a role model, must not have read that God forgives and has not met Poet Deep. Poet Deep is very honest about his past that includes drug dealing, fights and street life.

"One thing we have to do as a people is be honest and let the community know for those who are going through some things, that you have been there. The streets are looking for help and people they can relate to," said Poet Deep who is a very deep thinker, reader, and conscious person. "When you are in need, you do things that you know are wrong. I know. I was one of those dudes. I also know that I had to change because I have a purpose in life. It is not about the money. It is about saving lives."

Poet Deep is on a mission to let his words be his action through his words and music. Poet Deep adds, "This music and entertainment has our community messed up. The racial tension here in Baltimore doesn't help as well. We need a balance in music and entertainment with artists speaking truth and knowledge. I want to be that example."

Poet Deep is in the process of raising funds for musical ventures to make a difference. Please visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1421539651492761/>. Also follow Poet Deep on Facebook as he makes that journey to change the culture of music, role models, and Black life here in Baltimore. #BlackLifeMatters.

Indie Soul Review: My Favorite Five and The Best of the Ed Sullivan Show

By Phinisse Demps

If you are a regular reader of Indie Soul, you know that we try to find entertainment for our fans that is under the radar.

We want to let you know that Netflix seems to be the place for new African-American films including "My Favorite Five" a film directed by Paul D. Hannah and starring Rochelle Aytes, Brian White, DeRay Davis and Erica Hubbard.

"My Favorite Five" is a funny romantic comedy about a woman who is trying to find her one true love. Comedian DeRay Davis gives a great performance in this good date night movie. Be sure to visit our website: www.baltimoretimes-online.com to see a trailer of the movie and for more entertainment news and information.

New to DVD is "The Best of the Ed Sullivan Show." The release of six DVDs of some of the most memorable moments of the show including performances by The Jackson 5; Richard Pryor; Johnny Mathis; and many more. The special edition release delivers some the biggest names in entertainment business during the height of their careers, as well as astonishing novelty acts selected by Sullivan as his personal favorites from over 1,000 hours of classic television!

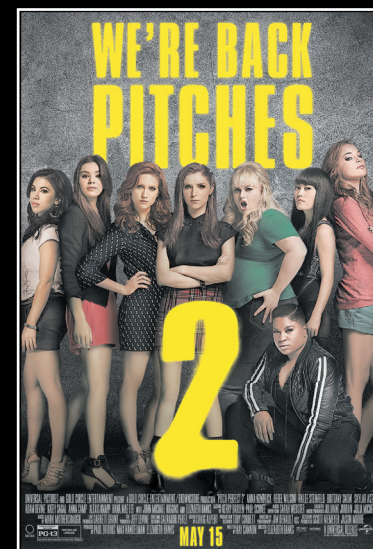
Indie Soul welcomes your questions and comments. To contact Phinisse Demps, call 410-366-3900 ext. 3016 or 410-501-0193 or email: pdemps@btimes.com. Follow him on Twitter@pdemps_btimes.

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DVD cover of "The BEST of the Ed Sullivan Show"

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Loretta Devine and James Pickens Jr. unite for first time since Grey's Anatomy

Silver Spring, Md.— TV One pays honor to the spirit of Mother's Day with the premiere of the network original film *For The Love Of Ruth* on Saturday, May 9, 2015 at 8 p.m. The film is inspired by the Biblical story of Ruth that at its core is a quintessential story of love, commitment and loyalty.

Denise Boutee (*Meet The Browns*) stars as Ruth, an orphan who was in search of her place in a lonely world, until Naomi Marachond, played by Loretta Devine (*Grey's Anatomy*) enters her life and provides the guidance and warmth she has been seeking. Rounding out the cast are James Pickens Jr. (*Grey's Anatomy*) in the role of Stephen Marachond, Naomi's sullen brother-in-law and Gary Dourdan (*CSI*) as Braxton Marachond, damaged isolated cousin Ruth's love interest.

"Mother's Day is an ideal time to share this classic tale of one of the strongest and complex relationships in the world — that between mothers and daughters," said D'Angela Proctor, SVP Original Programming and Production for TV One. "We hope this film also relays an even greater message — that compassion, loyalty and devotion for those in need can profoundly change the course of someone's life."

For The Love of Ruth follows the journey of Ruth Sommerling (Boutee), who, orphaned as a child and currently residing in a women's shelter has lived a life filled with pain and disappointment. In rapid succession, Ruth marries Nicholas Marachond, but a dreadful accident leaves her widowed. Refusing to aban-



Inspired by the Biblical story of Ruth, the TV One network original film "For The Love Of Ruth" premieres on Saturday, May 9, 2015. "For The Love Of Ruth" is a quintessential story of love, commitment and loyalty. The stars (left to right) Gary Dourdan; Denise Boutee; Loretta Devine; and James Pickens Jr. Courtesy Photo/TV One

don the new family ties she has formed, Ruth develops a close bond with Naomi Marachond (Devine). As the matriarch of the Marachond family, Naomi introduces Ruth to the fullness that a life filled with faith and loyalty presents.

However, Naomi's brother-in-law Stephen (Pickens Jr.) discourages this connection and voices his suspicion of Ruth's intentions. Ultimately, the love

she desired all her life is found in Naomi's reclusive cousin, Braxton (Dourdan) who despite objections from others showers Ruth with an outpouring of love and kindness.

For the Love of Ruth is produced by Eric Tomosunas of Swirl Films. Christine Swanson served as director for the film and the screenplay was written by Rhonda Baraka.

3rd Annual African American Children's Book Fair
Reginald F. Lewis Museum
830 East Pratt Street in Baltimore
Saturday, May 9, 2015 — Noon to 4 p.m.

The largest showcase of African American children's literature in the Maryland and Washington, D. C. area. The books, story themes, authors and illustrators are meant to reflect African American children and children of other ethnicities.

For more information on the African American Children's Book Fair, call 443-263-1800 or visit www.rflewismuseum.org.

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CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION

CITY OF BALTIMORE OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PUBLIC NOTICE PROJECT NO. 1236

On-Call Stormwater Study and Engineering Design Services

The City of Baltimore, Office of Boards and Commissions, has been requested by the Department of Public Works, Office of Engineering & Construction to advertise for Engineering Firms to perform On-Call Stormwater Study and Engineering Services for the Storm Water Engineering Office. Five (5) firms will be selected to perform design, hydrology studies, hydraulic analysis, inspections and investigations related to repairs, maintenance and new construction of storm drain facilities managed by the Storm Drain Engineering Section of the Office of Engineering & Construction.

The firms interested in providing these services must demonstrate and document:

- Experience in hydrology and hydraulic analysis of stormdrain and open channel systems utilizing computer models including but not limited to XP-SWMM (Visual Hydro), HEC-RAS, HSPF, TR-20, InfoWorks CSTM..
- Experience in the development, calibration and maintenance of hydraulic models for stormdrain and open channel systems.
- Experience in design of:
 - Stormwater drainage systems and stormwater management facilities. Experience in structural design for culvert rehab, retaining wall, slope stabilization, outfall stabilization, urban best management practice, environmental site design;
 - Innovative in-line, off-line, in-stream and off-stream stormwater pollution control measures including but not limited to wetlands, wet ponds, plate separators, pump-and-treat systems; debris collector system;
 - Innovative non-point source stormwater pollution control measures;
 - Including but not limited to structural design for various trash collection technologies in addition to structural assessment of existing infrastructure;
 - Hydrogeomorphological stream assessments, fluvial geomorphology, river and stream restoration using natural channel design approach and bioengineering techniques;

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- Urban best management practice and environmental site design.
- Experience in geotechnical services, conducting and evaluating all subsurface investigations, such as soil characterization and utility location, perform the video inspection of underground utility pipes, soil study, unsuitable material removal and disposal estimates.
- Experience in responding to stormwater system and open channel emergencies by rapidly assessing situation and recommending corrective measures.
- Experience in structural engineering to evaluate and design of concrete, stormwater infrastructure including but not limited to stone/brick arch structures, steel structures, mechanical and electrical elements of stormwater quantity management facilities (pump stations).
- Experience in the preparation of design reports and contract documents including plans and specifications, all permit applications, easements, and related items necessary for procurement of construction. Also have ability to provide project management, post award services and contract administration services.
- Experience and qualification in performing inspection, evaluation and assessment of structural conditions of stormwater infrastructure under confined space conditions.
- Experience in construction management services including, but not limited to, construction inspection, review and response to requests for information, review and tracking of shop drawings, submittals and change orders, review of substitutions and technical consultations.
- Familiarity with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit for stormwater.
- Experience in forest stand delineation and forest conservation plan and invasive species control.
- Ability to do upland watershed assessment for trash load and make recommendations to reduce trash load from the watershed.
- Experience in a cost/benefit analysis of potential alternative debris collection technologies and facility construction, operation and maintenance.
- Experience in using geographical information system and database managements.

DPW reserves the right to have a second interview with eligible consulting firms.

The estimated project fee is \$2,000,000 per firm. The duration of this project is estimated up to 5 years.

Legal Notices

Should you have any questions regarding the scope of the Project, please contact Ms. Beverly Albert at (410) 396-4700 or by e-mail at Beverly.Albert@baltimorecity.gov.

Projects must comply with the 2006 edition of "The Specifications for Materials, Highway, Bridges, Utilities and Incidental Structures." City personnel will utilize the City of Baltimore Guidelines for the Performance Evaluation of Design Consultants and Construction Contractors for this contract/project.

Firms intending to submit a proposal as a prime consultant for this project should submit a "Letter of Interest" to the Office of Boards and Commissions, 3000 Druid Park Drive, Baltimore MD, 21215 (OBC.consultants@baltimorecity.gov). Since these letters are utilized to assist small, minority and women business enterprises in identifying potential teaming partners, the letters should be submitted within five (5) days of the date of the project's advertisement. The letter should contain a contact person. Failure to submit a "Letter of Interest" will not disqualify a firm submitting a proposal for the project.

Each prime consultant applying for this Project will be required to complete and submit an original Federal Form 255, along with five (5) copies, to the Office of Boards and Commissions. The Federal Form 255 and the five copies must be submitted on or before 12:00 P.M. (Noon) on **May 29, 2015**. Submittals may not be accepted after this deadline.

Insurance Requirement

The consultant selected for the award of this project shall provide professional liability, auto liability, and general liability and workers' compensation insurances as required by the City of Baltimore.

Prequalification Requirement

All architectural, engineering, and surveying firms listed in the specific proposal for the Project must be prequalified by the Office of Boards and Commissions for each applicable discipline at time of submittal for this Project. If you need prequalification information call the Office of Boards and Commissions at 410-396-6883 or download the application from our website at: www.baltimorecity.gov/government/dpw

Legal Notices

MBE/WBE Requirements

It is the policy of the City of Baltimore to promote equal business opportunity in the City's contracting process. Pursuant to Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code (2000 Edition) – Minority and Women's Business Program, Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation goals apply to this contract.

The MBE goal is 27%
The WBE goal is 10%

Both the proposed Minority and the Women's Business Enterprise firms must be named and identified as an MBE or WBE within Item 6 of the Standard Form (SF) 255 in the spaces provided for identifying outside key consultants/associates anticipated for utilization for this project.

Any submittals that do not include the proper MBE/WBE participation will be disapproved for further consideration for this project.

Verifying Certification

Each firm submitting a SF 255 for consideration for a project is responsible for verifying that all MBEs and WBEs to be utilized on the project are certified by the Minority and Women's Business Opportunity Office (MWBOO) prior to submitting the proposal. A directory of certified MBEs and WBEs is available from MWBOO. Since changes to the directory occurs daily, firms submitting SF 255s should call MWBOO at (410) 396-4355 to verify certification, expiration dates and services that the MBE or WBE is certified to provide.

City Prohibition

The City of Baltimore, Architect & Engineering Awards Commission has advised top ranked firm Prime AE Groups, Inc. to contact the Office of Engineering and Construction to begin competitive negotiation for P1210R PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE CITY'S MS4 (STORMWATER PERMIT) PROGRAM agreement. Should Prime AE Groups, Inc. enter into an agreement with the City for P1210R, it will not be able to perform other design tasks for MS4 projects outside of

Legal Notice Project No. 1236
Continued on page 19

Legal Notices

Legal Notice Project No. 1236 **Continued from page 18**

this contract. However, if the winning consultant for P1210R has been awarded design services prior to winning P1210R, the consultant can proceed to completion with design. Sub-consultant and MBE/WBE's associated with P1210R will not be subject to this rule. These rules will apply up until the expiration of P1210R. This prohibition will avoid any potential conflict of interest issues or any perceived conflict of interest issues.

Non-Affiliation

A firm submitting a proposal may not use an MBE or WBE to meet a contract goal if:

1. The firm has a financial interest in the MBE or WBE
2. The firm has an interest in the ownership or control of the MBE or WBE
3. The firm is significantly involved in the operation of the MBE or WBE (Article 5, Subtitle 28-41).

Local Law Hiring

Article 5, Subtitle 27 of the Baltimore City Code, as amended (the "Local Hiring Law") And its rules and regulation apply to contracts and agreements executed by the City on Or after the Local Hiring Law's effective date of December 23, 2013 which is applicable To all vendors. The Local Hiring Law applies to every contract for more than \$300,000 made by the City, or on its behalf, with any person. It also applies to every agreement authorizing assistance valued at more than \$5,000,000 to a City-subsidized project. Please visit www.oedworks.com for details on the requirements of the law.

Additional Information

A firm submitting as a prime consultant that fails to comply with the requirements of Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code when executing a contract is subject to the following penalties: suspension of a contract; withholding of funds; rescission of contract based on material breach; disqualification as a consultant from eligibility to provide services to the City for a period not to exceed 2 years; and payment for damages incurred by the City.

A resume for each person listed as key personnel and/or specialist, including those

Legal Notices

from MBE and WBE, must be shown on the page provided within the application. Please be advised that for the purpose of reviewing price proposals and invoices, the City of Baltimore defines a principal of a firm as follows:

A principal is any individual owning 5% or more of the outstanding stock of an entity, a partner of a partnership, a 5% or more shareholder of a sub-chapter 'S' Corporation, or an individual owner.

Out-of-State Corporations must identify their corporate resident agent within the application.

Firms will not be considered for a specific project if they apply as both a sub-consultant and prime consultant.

The applications for this Project (Form 255) cannot be supplemented with any additional information such as graphs, photographs, organization chart, etc. All such information should be incorporated into the appropriate pages. Applications should not be bound. Applications should simply be stapled in the upper left-hand corner. Cover sheets should not be included. Inclusion and/or submittal of additional material may result in the applicant being disqualified from consideration for this project.

Failure to follow directions specified in this advertisement, or the application (Form 255) may cause disqualification of the submittal.

Mr. Michael Augins
Executive Secretary

CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION CITY OF BALTIMORE OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PUBLIC NOTICE

PROJECT #1237 On-Call Environmental Site Design and Engineering Services

The City of Baltimore Office of Boards & Commissions has been requested by the Department of Public Works, Office of Engineering & Construction to advertise for two Civil/Environmental Engineering Firms to perform On-Call Environmental Restoration Design and Engineering Services for the Bureau of Water and Wastewater. The work will involve but not be limited to environmental study and design of urban best man-

Legal Notices

agement practice (BMP) and environmental site design (ESD). The Firms interested in providing these services must demonstrate and document:

- Ability to do watershed assessment for urban BMP and ESD;
- Experience in a cost/benefit analysis of potential alternative technologies and facility construction, operation and maintenance;
- Experience in conducting hydrologic and hydraulic studies utilizing computer models including but not limited to XP-SWMM (Visual Hydro), HEC-RAS, HSPF, TR-20
- Experience in the preparation of reports, detailed cost estimates and contractual documents as required by the City including processing all permit required for the construction and operation of the facility, rights of way, easements, and related items necessary for procurement of construction. Also have ability to provide project management, post award services and contract administration services;
- Experience in reviewing shop drawings and evaluating potential change orders during construction;
- Experience in geotechnical services for utility investigations, soil study, unsuitable material removal and disposal estimates;
- Experience in structural design for culvert rehab, retaining wall, slope stabilization, outfall stabilization, urban BMP, ESD.

DPW reserves the right to have a second interview with eligible consulting firms.

The estimated project fee is \$2,000,000 per firm. The duration of this project is estimated up to 5 years.

Should you have any questions regarding the scope of the Project, please contact Ms. Tracy Moffatt at (410) 396-4700 or by e-mail at Tracy.Moffatt@baltimorecity.gov.

Projects must comply with the 2006 edition of "The Specifications for Materials, Highway, Bridges, Utilities and Incidental Structures." City personnel will utilize the City of Baltimore Guidelines for the Performance Evaluation of Design Consultants and Construction Contractors for this contract/project.

Firms intending to submit a proposal as a prime consultant for this project should submit a "Letter of Interest" to the Office of Boards and Commissions, 3000 Druid Park Drive, Baltimore MD, 21215 (OBC.consultants@baltimorecity.gov). Since these let-

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ters are utilized to assist small, minority and women business enterprises in identifying potential teaming partners, the letters should be submitted within five (5) days of the date of the project's advertisement. The letter should contain a contact person. Failure to submit a "Letter of Interest" will not disqualify a firm submitting a proposal for the project.

Each prime consultant applying for this Project will be required to complete and submit an original Federal Form 255, along with five (5) copies, to the Office of Boards and Commissions. The Federal Form 255 and the five copies must be submitted on or before 12:00 P.M. (Noon) on May 29, 2015. Submittals may not be accepted after this deadline.

Insurance Requirement

The consultant selected for the award of this project shall provide professional liability, auto liability, and general liability and workers' compensation insurances as required by the City of Baltimore.

Prequalification Requirement

All architectural, engineering, and surveying firms listed in the specific proposal for the Project must be prequalified by the Office of Boards and Commissions for each applicable discipline at time of submittal for this Project. If you need prequalification information call the Office of Boards and Commissions at 410- 396-6883 or download the application from our website at: www.baltimorecity.gov/government/dpw

MBE/WBE Requirements

It is the policy of the City of Baltimore to promote equal business opportunity in the City's contracting process. Pursuant to Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code (2000 Edition) – Minority and Women's Business Program, Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation goals apply to this contract.

The MBE goal is **27%**
The WBE goal is **10%**

Both the proposed Minority and the Women's Business Enterprise firms must be

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